

VEDHIK
DAJLY NEWS
ANALYSIS
10 - NOVEMBER 2021

FOREWORD

We, at Team Vedhik is happy to introduce a new initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" compilations to help you with UPSC Civil Services Examination preparation. We believe this initiative - "Daily Current Affairs_The Hindu" would help students, especially beginners save time and streamline their preparations with regard to Current Affairs. A content page and an Appendix has been added segregating and mapping the content to the syllabus.

It is an appreciable efforts by Vedhik IAS Academy helping aspirants of UPSC Civil Services Examinations. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Babu Sebastian, former VC - MG University in extending all support to this endeavour. Finally I also extend my thanks to thank Ms. Shilpa Sasidharan and Mr. Shahul Hameed for their assistance in the preparing the compilations.

We welcome your valuable comments so that further improvement may be made in the forthcoming material. We look forward to feedback, comments and suggestions on how to improve and add value for students. Every care has been taken to avoid typing errors and if any reader comes across any such error, the authors shall feel obliged if they are informed at their Email ID.

CONTENTS

- Editorials - Localising the labour force through reservations
GSP 01 H
- News - NSA Doval meets Tajik, Uzbek counterparts
GSP 02 B
- News - Taiwan says China capable
GSP 02 C
- News - SC Collegium clears transfer of Madras HC CJ to Meghalaya
GSP 02 I
- Editorials - India needs to sign up for life-course immunisation
GSP 02 T
- News - New climate pledges barely affect global warming UN
GSP 03 P

CONTENTS

- News - Facebook whistleblower fears the metaverse
GSP 03 R
- Editorials - Caught in the crossfire
GSP 03 U
- Editorials - GMC to forge solutions to key issues
GSP 03 U
- News - China exports warship to Pak., to be deployed in
Indian Ocean
GSP 03 U

Localising the labour force through reservations

What is the Andhra Pradesh Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories Act? What has been its implications?

V. RAGHAVENDRA
VIKAS DHOOT

The story so far: On Saturday, the Haryana Government notified a law reserving 75% jobs for locals, which will come into effect from January 15, 2022. The law requires firms to reserve 75% of all jobs offering a salary of less than ₹30,000 a month for eligible candidates of State domicile. Following the Haryana move, the Jharkhand Assembly passed a Bill providing 75% reservation for locals in the private sector for salaries up to ₹40,000 a month. In 2019, the Andhra Pradesh Government had passed a similar law – the A.P. Employment of Local Candidates in Industries/Factories Act.

What did the Andhra law stipulate? The Andhra Pradesh law, passed by the Assembly in July 2019, and notified promptly next month, reserved 75% of jobs for locals in industries and factories, including any joint venture and project taken up under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode. Where suitable local candidates were not available, the industry or factory would be given three weeks to train local candidates with



“active collaboration of the Government”. The Government also laid down that industry would have to apply for any exemptions from the Department of Labour, Employment and Training before sourcing employees from other States.

How has the industry coped so far? For now, the priority for the State, according to industry experts, is on getting new industries to absorb the local candidates in phases, as implementing the law for existing workforce would

entail terminating employees who may be from other States. The Government is not forcing employers to implement the Act for various reasons, which mainly include the prevailing gloomy industrial scenario, largely attributable to the pandemic's aftermath.

Has the law been challenged yet? While the Government has begun training programmes to develop skilled labour to cater to various sectors and implement the Act, an advocate has filed a writ petition challenging the law's

constitutional validity. The State, the advocate stated, has no power to prescribe the domicile or place of birth or place of residence as a requirement for public employment.

What do private industries feel?

The Andhra Pradesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry Federation president-elect P. Bhaskar Rao told *The Hindu* that while seeking to implement the Act, the importance of productivity levels of workers should not be overlooked. For instance, the workforce from Odisha and Bihar is highly productive compared to workers belonging to the Telugu-speaking States, he said. Mr. Rao said the Government has “not compelled us to implement the Act.”

Another issue which the industries are grappling with is the uncertainty whether local candidates will continue in their jobs and the possibility of them resisting the entry of job-seekers from other States if the situation necessitates outsourcing.

What are the takeaways for Haryana and Jharkhand?

For Haryana, already home to a thriving commercial, IT and automobile industry, a firm implementation of the law could

drive away existing investors as well as dry up fresh greenfield and brownfield investments.

“Instead of compelling firms to hire locals, the State can consider giving a 25% subsidy to firms as an incentive for hiring locals,” Mr. Rao said. The industry chamber has also suggested to the State that if reservations have to be made, they should begin with a lower threshold of 20%-25% and give time for the State's youth to inculcate and hone their specialised skill sets.

While mineral-rich Jharkhand will have its own set of unique issues and challenges in implementing the job reservation plan, we have to wait for the final rules and implementation date to be notified before assessing its implications.

The broader trend of raising the sons of the soil issue for electoral gains in States will hurt the investment climate across the country, warned Amitava Ghosh, co-founder and principal partner at SSA Compliance Services LLP. “If more States follow suit, there will surely be an extreme level of talent crunch across industries in different States, and the free movement of India's manpower resources within the nation will be threatened,” he said.

NSA Doval meets Tajik, Uzbek counterparts

‘Afghanistan was the major focus of discussions’

SUHASINI HAIDAR
NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Delhi Regional Security Dialogue, National Security Adviser Ajit Doval met his counterparts from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan for separate bilateral meetings here on Tuesday where they discussed the terror threats from Afghanistan, the humanitarian crisis unfolding there and the need for an inclusive and “legitimate” Government in Kabul. Mr. Doval will join the NSAs and the security chiefs for an eight-nation conference on Wednesday morning, to discuss the issues further.

“Afghanistan was the major focus of discussions. Both sides agreed that the future of Afghanistan must be decided by the people of Afghanistan themselves,” sources said after Mr. Doval's meeting with Uzbekistan Secretary of the Security Council Lt. Gen. Victor Makhmudov in the South Block, adding that the question of legitimacy should be dealt with before discussing international recognition to the Government in Kabul.

At present, no country has recognised the Taliban Interim Government and the Taliban has rejected calls for an electoral process to decide who will succeed the previous Ghani Government.

Humanitarian crisis

“Both sides emphasised the need for neighbours to ensure unhindered access of humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan. They also agreed that the neighbours must play a constructive role there,” sources



Strategic meet: NSA Ajit Doval with his Uzbekistan counterpart Victor Makhmudov during their meeting. ♦PTI

said in comments that appeared to be aimed at Pakistan which has declined India's request to send medical and wheat shipments as aid by road to Afghanistan. The U.N. had earlier warned that more than half the population of Afghanistan could face a crisis with food stocks running out.

The comments come a week after Mr. Makhmudov was in Islamabad to establish a Joint Security Commission agreement with the Pakistan Government to strengthen strategic ties and connectivity.

Deepening cooperation

Tajikistan's Secretary of the Security Council Nasrullo Rahmatjon also “highlighted the gravity of the situation in Afghanistan” from a “sharp increase” in terrorist threats during his meeting with Mr. Doval. Sources said both countries have a significant

convergence of assessments on Afghanistan.

Tajik President Emomali Rahmon has taken the toughest line amongst the Central Asian states on the Taliban for its “human rights violations” and the Government is believed to have hosted members of the anti-Taliban “National Resistance Front” led by Ahmed Masoud at various times in the past few months.

Government sources privy to the conversation said Mr. Doval and Mr. Rahmatjon also spoke about deepening cooperation in areas like defence, border management and border infrastructure development.

On Wednesday, Mr. Doval will host the plenary session of all the security chiefs attending the dialogue. In the afternoon, he will hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Russia, Iran and Kazakhstan.

Taiwan says China capable of air, sea blockade of island

'Beijing beefing up its ability to launch amphibious assaults'

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TAIPEI

China is capable of blockading Taiwan's major ports and airports to cut off key transport links, the island's Defence Ministry warned on Tuesday, with Beijing-Taipei tensions at their highest in years. Taiwan lives under the constant threat of invasion by China, which sees the self-ruled democratic island as part of its territory to be brought into its fold, by force if necessary.

Beijing has ramped up pressure since Tsai Ing-wen became Taiwan's President in 2016, as she views the island as a sovereign nation and not part of "one China".

Beijing is strengthening its air, sea and land strike capabilities against the island, Taiwan's Defence Ministry said in a biennial report released Tuesday. Those capabilities include imposing a "blockade against our critical harbours, airports and outbound flight routes, to cut off our air and sea lines of communication", the report added.

The report also warned that China is capable of striking all of Taiwan with its missile arsenal, including ballistic and cruise variants, and is also beefing up its ability to launch amphibious assaults on the island.

Taiwan's Defence Minis-

ter warned last month that military tensions with China were at their highest in four decades, after record incursions by Chinese warplanes into the island's air defence identification zone.

The zone is not the same as Taiwan's territorial airspace but includes a far greater area that overlaps with part of China's own air defence identification zone.

China's "frequent manipulation of grey zone threats" such as the warplane incursions, as well as other methods of warfare, including cyberattacks, are aimed at "seizing Taiwan without a fight", the Defence Ministry report said.

SC Collegium clears transfer of Madras HC CJ to Meghalaya

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI

The Supreme Court collegium has recommended the transfer of Madras High Court Chief Justice Sanjib Banerjee to the Meghalaya High Court. It also recommended the transfer of Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari from the Allahabad High Court to the Madras High Court.

Resolutions for both the recommendations were passed by the Collegium on September 16 but were made public only on Tues-

day. Chief Justice Banerjee, hailing from West Bengal, had assumed charge in the Madras High Court on January 4, 2021 and is due to retire from service on November 1, 2023.

A similar recommendation made by the Supreme Court in 2019 to transfer the then Madras High Court Chief Justice Vijaya Kamlesh Tahilramani to the much smaller Meghalaya High Court had created a furore among the legal fraternity. When her plea for reconsideration was rejected, Justice

Tahilramani chose to put in her papers.

Justice Bhandari, who had been recommended to be transferred to the Madras High Court, hails from Rajasthan.

He was transferred to the Allahabad High Court on March 15, 2019 and is due to retire from service on September 12, 2022.

He is now the senior most judge of Allahabad High Court and had been its Acting Chief Justice too between June 26, 2021 and October 10, 2021.

India needs to sign up for life-course immunisation

The COVID-19 vaccination drive is a reminder that the benefits of many vaccines have yet to reach the adult population



CHANDRAKANT LAHARIYA

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, most people linked associated vaccination with children only. The fact is that vaccines – ever since the first vaccine against smallpox became available in 1798 – had always been for a far wider age group, including for adults. However, soon after smallpox eradication and the launch of the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) across the world in the 1970s – and in India in 1978 – there were concerted efforts to increase vaccine use and coverage in children. Scientifically, the benefit of most vaccines are greater if administered earlier in life – infancy and childhood – a reason children are usually prioritised and vaccines recommended for every child. For the remaining age groups including adults, vaccines are recommended for specific sub-groups such as older people or those with specific health conditions.

The COVID-19 vaccines are exceptions in some sense. These are the first vaccines which have been recommended for all adults, who have been given priority over children. In fact, the jury is still out on whether, which age sub-group and when children should receive COVID-19 vaccines.

The importance of vaccines, which are considered to be among the most cost-effective public health interventions, has been recognised globally. Yet, the full benefits of vaccines do not reach all children and other age groups. There are wide inequities in vaccine coverage in children by geography, gender, parent's education and family's socio-economic sta-

tus, and other stratifiers. The coverage of most available vaccines in adults in India is sub-optimal. The COVID-19 vaccination drive is an opportunity to take stock of the status of adult immunisation and the future ahead.

Need for adult vaccination

Following the outbreaks of Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in 2005-06 – in the years that followed – India had conducted mass scale JE vaccination in the endemic districts, which included the adult age group. Then, there had been a limited use of Swine Flu vaccines for health workers during the H1N1 (2009) pandemic in 2009-10. Other than that, there has been limited focus on the systematic efforts for adult vaccination in India. The first and only national vaccine policy of India, released in 2011, had no mention of adult vaccination. The National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI) in India, on a few occasions, discussed adult immunisation but stayed away from any recommendation for the general population except for the vaccination of health workers as high-risk groups, for hepatitis B vaccine, etc.

Outside the Government, professional groups such as the Association of Physicians of India and the Indian Society of Nephrology have released guidelines on adult vaccination; however, as these are voluntary and the private sector share in vaccination in India is very small, understandably, the impact remains unknown and is likely to be low.

There is very limited data on the burden of vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) in adult age groups – in most settings including India. Lately, review of available data has pointed that the increased childhood vaccination coverage has resulted in proportionately higher cases of VPDs in the older age groups. It is known that the bur-



GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

den of VPDs in adults (in comparison to children) is relatively low; the larger adult population renders a greater social impact in terms of absenteeism from work (due to illnesses) and the associated costs of health care seeking and hospitalisation.

There is emerging scientific evidence on waning immunity and the need of booster doses in the adult age group for the vaccines administered in childhood. The vaccines which have become available in the last two decades (which adults had not received as children), have potential to be beneficial. As an example, there are more deaths due to pneumonia in adults than in children. A proportion of those illnesses, hospitalisations and deaths – in all age groups – can be prevented by increasing coverage of currently licensed vaccines which prevents pneumonia and related complications. Fortunately, these vaccines have become part of childhood vaccination programmes; however, the coverage and benefits need to be expanded to the identified high-risk adult population. The available evidence has resulted in the global stakeholders agreeing to 'the Immunization Agenda 2030' (<https://bit.ly/3qIKnHI>) which has emphasised that countries should consider extending the benefit of vaccines to all age groups.

An opportunity in hand

The COVID-19 vaccination drive has drawn our attention to the possibilities of adult vaccination, which should be used effectively.

The initiatives should be taken to educate public, health-care pro-

viders and members of professional associations about currently available vaccines for adult age groups. This can help people to make an informed choice and healthcare providers to share information with citizens. Various training programmes and graduate and postgraduate teaching curricula should be revised to have content on adult vaccination.

The current discourse should be used to plan and develop a national adult vaccination strategy and road map for India. It can be done through a few coordinated efforts.

The steps to take

First, the mandate of NTAGI needs to be expanded to adult vaccination. NTAGI may start with a review of available scientific evidence and providing recommendations on adult vaccination in India. These recommendations can be regularly revisited and revised once additional data become available. A NTAGI subgroup on adult vaccination can also be constituted to facilitate the process.

Second, the VPD surveillance system and the capacity to record, report and analyse data on the disease burden and immunisation coverage need to be strengthened. The focus has to be on analysing immunisation coverage and VPD surveillance data by age and other related stratifiers.

Third, the capacity of research and academic institutions to conduct operational research including the cost benefit analysis and to guide evidence-informed decisions needs to be boosted. Such analysis and evidence can be used by NTAGI in decision making processes.

Fourth, the process for developing and drafting a road map, possibly India's national adult vaccination policy and strategy should be initiated. Any such policy should factor-in the learnings and lessons

from the ongoing COVID-19 vaccination drive as well. In fact, policy questions in need of the answers should be identified now, and the process to generate evidence started. Otherwise, we may be at risk of asking policy questions 10 years down the line which can be answered in a few years from now.

Fifth, on a more operational level, the shortage of life-saving rabies vaccine in India in 2019 is a reminder of the risk and vulnerability in vaccine supply. To ensure vaccine security and be future ready for adult vaccination, the existing public sector vaccine manufacturing units in India should be revived and more need to be set up.

Vaccination policy for adults

The childhood vaccination programme is amongst the best performing government health programmes in India. In COVID-19 vaccination, it was the government facilities which have delivered 93%- 95% of total vaccine shots. The COVID-19 vaccination is a reminder that the benefits of already licensed vaccines are yet to reach the adult population. It is an opportunity for health policy makers in India to institutionalise mechanisms to examine the need, take policy decisions on adult vaccination and empower adult citizens to make informed choices on whether they wish to get currently available vaccines. It is time to plan for and expand the benefits of vaccines, for all age groups as part of the Universal Immunization Programme Plus in India. Drafting and developing a national adult vaccination policy and strategy for India could be one such concrete step in this direction.

Chandrakant Lahariya, a physician-epidemiologist, is a vaccines and health systems specialist. His forthcoming book is 'The Lighthouse of Peeragarhi: What We Need To Prevent Diseases And Protect Health'

New climate pledges barely affect global warming: UN

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
GLASGOW

A flurry of emissions pledges around the COP26 climate summit will likely do little to slow global warming, the UN said on Tuesday, calling on nations to sharply accelerate their greenhouse gas cuts this decade.

Nations have presented a range of new and enhanced commitments – including a vow by India to be carbon neutral by 2070 – in recent weeks as the UN climate summit sets its sights on limiting temperature rises to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Countries came in to the negotiations far off target, with national emissions-cutting pledges – known as nationally determined contributions, or NDCs – put Earth on course to warm a “catastrophic” 2.7 degrees Celsius this century.

And a fresh assessment of their new pledges by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) found the outcome was “very similar”, largely because the most ambitious emissions cuts are envisaged after 2030.

The report highlights the challenges facing climate negotiations, given the yawning gap between the emissions cuts needed this decade to keep warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and the continuing increases in greenhouse gases pumped into the atmosphere.

UN Climate Change said last week that countries’ renewed NDCs would see emissions climb 13.7% by 2030 before sharply declining thereafter.

To keep in line with 1.5C, emissions must instead fall 45% by then.

Facebook whistleblower fears the metaverse

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BRUSSELS

Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen warned on Tuesday that the “metaverse”, the all-encompassing virtual reality world promised by the social media giant, will be addictive and rob people of yet more personal information while giving the embattled company another monopoly online.

In an interview with *The Associated Press*, Ms. Haugen said her former employer rushed to trumpet the metaverse because of the intense pressure it is facing after she revealed deep-seated problems at the company and energised legislative and regulatory efforts around the world to crack down on big tech companies. “If you don’t like the conversation, you try to change the conversation,” the former product-manager said.

Meta, the new name for

the parent company of Facebook, denied it was trying to divert from the troubles it faces by pushing the metaverse. “This is not true. We have been working on this for a long time internally,” the company said in a statement. But the new focus on metaverse creates a whole new set of dangers, Ms. Haugen said.

“So beyond the fact that these immersive environments are extremely addictive and they encourage people to unplug from the reality we actually live,” she said, “I’m also worried about it on the level of – the metaverse will require us to put many, many more sensors in our homes and our workplaces,” forcing users to relinquish more of their data and their privacy. She said employees of companies that use the metaverse would have little option but to participate in the system or leave their jobs.

Caught in the crossfire

India and Pakistan must ensure that fishermen are not victims of a deterioration in ties

An Indian fisherman was killed in firing by the Pakistan Maritime Security Agency (PMSA) off the Gujarat coast on November 7. This is the first such killing by the PMSA in the last six years though conflicts over fishing rights are not infrequent along the International Maritime Boundary Line between the two countries. Six other fishermen have reportedly been detained, while one injured person managed to return to Indian shores. India has termed Pakistan’s action deplorable and “in contravention to all established international practices and bilateral understandings”. On Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs summoned a Pakistani diplomat who was asked to investigate the incident and instruct its forces to refrain from unprovoked firing. According to the Gujarat government, a total of 345 fishermen from the State were lodged in Pakistan jails as on December 2020. In April 2020, Pakistani forces opened fire on two boats off the Gujarat coast injuring one person, and in 2019 they sunk an Indian boat in which six of seven fishermen onboard were rescued. One person went missing. Fishermen often get caught in the fluctuating fate of the bilateral relations between the two countries, which is currently at a low.

According to the National Fishworkers Forum, there are 558 Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails, and 74 from Pakistan in Indian prisons. The Forum calculates that 1,200 Indian fishing vessels are in Pakistan’s custody. The families of these imprisoned people are in penury. Consular access to those in prison is difficult. Only 295 of the 558 prisoners in Pakistan could have their nationality verified. In 2007, both countries formed a joint judicial committee comprising eight retired judges – four each from India and Pakistan – to facilitate the exchange of civilian prisoners. The mechanism has been defunct since 2013, and attempts to revive it in 2018 did not bear fruit. Civilians along international borders often get caught in disputes between countries, and India has several such hotspots, on land and in sea. Even fishermen venturing near the India-Sri Lanka maritime border often fall victim though both countries maintain cordial bilateral ties. Many Indian villages along the borders with Myanmar and Bangladesh also become theatres of conflict, as communities often find it difficult to reconcile with international borders that divide their traditional spheres of economic and social activities. Pakistan has aggressively sponsored violence in India, and terrorists trained by its agencies sailed in a hijacked Indian fishing boat in 2008 to Mumbai. It is a tragedy that ordinary people could end up in a foreign prison while trying to earn their livelihood. India and Pakistan must consider this as a humanitarian crisis and work towards resolving it. And, both countries must avoid any escalation in tensions on account of the latest incident.

‘GMC to forge solutions to key issues’

Seas permit free flow of commerce and ideas, says Navy chief

DINAKAR PERI
DONA PAULA

The Indian Navy is monitoring the Chinese Navy and its maritime assets deployed in the IOR, says Navy chief Admiral Karambir Singh on the sidelines of the Goa Maritime Conclave. Excerpts:

The GMC has grown as a platform. In the backdrop of developments in the region, what is the focus of this edition and the forward?

■ The aim of the conclave is to bring together a smaller group of navies in the immediate neighbourhood, look at the common challenges that we face and forge tangible solutions to key issues. We bring together practitioners and scholars to discuss these challenges. Thereafter, we have an exclusive session wherein the heads of navies will discuss one-on-one the way forward to these challenges. This year, the theme is ‘Maritime Security and Emerging Non Traditional Threats: The Case for Proactive Role for Indian Ocean Region Navies’. We will examine information-sharing, hydrographic cooperation, maritime law enforcement, training, opportunities in disaster response, crisis management etc.

Each GMC is followed by a Goa Maritime Symposium (GMS). During the GMS, we follow up discussions that have happened during the GMC and work to bring them to fruition through an action plan that will be presented back again to the naval heads. And since we are a smaller grouping, it will be easier for us to do that.

In addition to increased

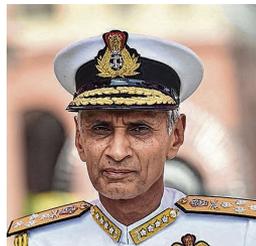
forays into the IOR (Indian Ocean Region), the PLA Navy now has a base in Djibouti and are building ships faster than anyone else. In this backdrop, how are you prioritising your modernisation as well as operational philosophy?

■ As a Navy, we are monitoring the Chinese Navy and Chinese maritime assets that are deployed in the IOR, including Chinese research vessels to watch out for any activities inimical to our interests. It is true that the Chinese have a presence in the IOR. And whatever you said, bases and presence is a fact.

What is the way forward for Quad as well the Malabar exercise, given the growing interest in the region?

■ I think we need to differentiate between Malabar and the Quad. The former precedes the latter. It was in 1992 that we started Malabar with the U.S. Navy, and thereafter, it has grown over a period of time to include Japan and Australia. What we are achieving in Malabar is that we are continuously increasing the scope and complexity of the exercise so that we are able to seamlessly operate with each other. And if required, for any contingency or any challenge, we can easily come in a plug and play format and operate. As for the Quad, it is basically a Ministry of External Affairs’ (MEA) construct.

India has signed all the foundational agreements with the U.S. and logistics support agreements with several countries, including Australia and Japan. How has the Navy benefited from these agreements?



■ The main thing that navies require is ‘Reach and Sustenance’

■ These are all important agreements that we’ve signed. When we sign these agreements, say LEMOA (Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement), and our ships are deployed off Guam, we are able to take fuel from their tankers. Or when we are operating off Australia, we will be able to take fuel from their tanker. The main thing that navies require is ‘Reach and Sustenance’. These are two very important principles on which any Navy operates. The agreements that we have, including the foundational agreements, have helped us in being able to achieve this ‘Reach and Sustenance’, which is very important for us.

What were the top challenges during your tenure at the helm? Since the developments in Afghanistan, there have been apprehensions of possible smuggling of weapons via the sea route in addition to narcotics. What is your assessment?

■ Narco-terrorism is a real threat that we envisage. There is a connection between drug trafficking and arms trafficking. Organisa-

tions like ISIS Khorasan depend a fair amount on the money that they make out of drugs. We have intelligence that indicates that there is a flow of drugs from the Makran coast, down to the East coast of Africa, from where it moves to the island nations, which are tourism dependent economies, and then to Sri Lanka and India and also across the world.

This is a threat that we are aware of, and we have initiatives such as the Colombo Security Conclave, wherein we want to do certain Focused Operations with countries that are affected by challenges such as drug trafficking to put an end to this scourge.

What is your assessment of the concept of Mission Based Deployments (MBD) that began five years back?

■ Mission Based Deployments, which started in 2017, have been of significant utility to us. First, when ships are on regular deployment in key areas in the IOR, they increase their familiarity with the area of operation. We are also available for response in any situation... So that establishes our credibility and assures friendly nations that we are ready to assist anytime.

Also, when we talk of our endeavour to be a Preferred Security Partner, we have to be around to come to assistance... MBD has actually transformed the Navy from a deployment ready Navy to a deployed Navy. The intention is to continue with this particular method of deployment.

(To read the full interview, log on to bit.ly/NavyChiefInterview)

China exports warship to Pak., to be deployed in Indian Ocean

It will 'strengthen Pak. Navy's capabilities to respond to maritime challenges'

ANANTH KRISHNAN
HONG KONG

China on Monday delivered to Pakistan's Navy what its official media described as the "most advanced" Chinese warship ever exported, which is to be deployed by Pakistan in the Indian Ocean.

The delivery of the Type 054A frigate is the latest example of increasingly close military cooperation, which many Chinese and Pakistani analysts see as aimed at bolstering Pakistani capabilities in an effort to balance India in the region.

Pakistan's envoy to China, Moin Ul Haque, told the Communist Party-run newspaper *Global Times* on



Naval matters: Four Type 054A frigates are being constructed for the Pakistan Navy. ■ REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

Tuesday that the commissioning of the frigate "in the context of the overall security paradigm of the region" would "strengthen Pakistan Navy's capabilities to respond to maritime challenges to ensure seaward defence,

maintain peace, stability and balance of power in the Indian Ocean region".

The newspaper quoted the China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC), which designed and built the frigate, as saying the warship

was delivered to the Pakistan Navy in a commissioning ceremony in Shanghai.

PNS Tughril

It has been named *PNS Tughril* by the Pakistani Navy, and it is "the first hull of four Type 054 frigates being constructed for the Pakistan Navy", the Pakistan Navy told the newspaper,

"Being equipped with state-of-the-art combat management and an electronic warfare system along with modern self-defence capabilities, the Type 054A/P frigate can simultaneously execute a number of naval warfare missions in a highly intense multi-threat environment," it added.

General Studies Paper I	
A	History of Indian culture will cover the salient aspects of art forms, literature and architecture from ancient to modern times;
B	Modern Indian history from about the middle of the eighteenth century until the present-significant events, personalities, issues;
C	Freedom struggle-its various stages and important contributors / contributions from different parts of the country;
D	Post-independence consolidation and reorganization within the country;
E	History of the world will include events from 18 th century such as industrial revolution, world wars, re-drawal of national boundaries, colonization, decolonization,
F	Political philosophies like communism, capitalism, socialism etc.-their forms and effect on the society
G	Salient features of Indian Society, Diversity of India;
H	Effects of globalization on Indian society;
I	Role of women and women's organization;
J	Social empowerment, communalism, regionalism & secularism
K	Salient features of world's physical geography;
L	Geographical features and their location- changes in critical geographical features (including water bodies and ice-caps) and in flora and fauna and the effects of such changes;
M	Important Geophysical phenomena such as earthquakes, Tsunami, Volcanic activity, cyclone etc.
N	Distribution of key natural resources across the world (including South Asia and the Indian subcontinent);
O	Factors responsible for the location of primary, secondary, and tertiary sector industries in various parts of the world (including India);
P	Population and associated issues;
Q	Urbanization, their problems and their remedies
General Studies Paper II	
A	India and its neighbourhood- relations;
B	Important International institutions, agencies and fora- their structure, mandate;
C	Effect of policies and politics of developed and developing countries on India's interests;
D	Bilateral, regional and global groupings and agreements involving India and/or affecting India's interests.
E	Indian Constitution, historical underpinnings, evolution, features, amendments, significant provisions and basic structure;
F	Comparison of the Indian Constitutional scheme with other countries;
G	Functions and responsibilities of the Union and the States, issues and challenges pertaining to the federal structure, devolution of powers and finances up to local levels and challenges therein; Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
H	Parliament and State Legislatures - structure, functioning, conduct of business, powers & privileges and issues arising out of these;
I	Structure, organization and functioning of the executive and the judiciary, Ministries and Departments;

J	Separation of powers between various organs dispute redressal mechanisms and institutions;
K	Appointment to various Constitutional posts, powers, functions and responsibilities of various Constitutional bodies;
L	Statutory, regulatory and various quasi-judicial bodies;
M	Mechanisms, laws, institutions and bodies constituted for the protection and betterment of these vulnerable sections;
N	Salient features of the Representation of People's Act;
O	Important aspects of governance, transparency and accountability, e-governance- applications, models, successes, limitations, and potential;
P	Citizens charters, transparency & accountability and institutional and other measures;
Q	Issues relating to poverty and hunger,
R	Welfare schemes for vulnerable sections of the population by the Centre and States, Performance of these schemes;
S	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to education and human resources;
T	Issues relating to development and management of social sector / services relating to health
General Studies Paper III	
A	Indian Economy and issues relating to planning, mobilization of resources, growth, development and employment;
B	Effects of liberalization on the economy, changes in industrial policy and their effects on industrial growth;
C	Inclusive growth and issues arising from it;
D	Infrastructure Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc. Government budgeting;
E	Land reforms in India
F	Major crops, cropping patterns in various parts of the country, different types of irrigation and irrigation systems;
G	Storage, transport and marketing of agricultural produce and issues and related constraints;
H	e-technology in the aid of farmers; Technology Missions; Economics of Animal-Rearing.
I	Issues of buffer stocks and food security, Public Distribution System- objectives, functioning, limitations, revamping;
J	Food processing and related industries in India – scope and significance, location, upstream and downstream requirements, supply chain management;
K	Issues related to direct and indirect farm subsidies and minimum support prices
L	Awareness in the fields of IT, Space, Computers, robotics, nano-technology, bio-technology;
M	Indigenization of technology and developing new technology;
N	Developments and their applications and effects in everyday life;
O	Issues relating to intellectual property rights
P	Conservation, environmental pollution and degradation, environmental impact assessment
Q	Disaster and disaster management
R	Challenges to internal security through communication networks, role of media and social networking sites in internal security challenges, basics of cyber security;
S	Money-laundering and its prevention;

T	Various forces and their mandate;
U	Security challenges and their management in border areas;
V	Linkages of organized crime with terrorism;
W	Role of external state and non-state actors in creating challenges to internal security;
X	Linkages between development and spread of extremism.
General Studies Paper IV	
A	Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions;
B	Dimensions of ethics;
C	Ethics in private and public relationships. Human Values - lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;
D	Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.
E	Attitude: Content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour;
F	Moral and political attitudes;
G	Social influence and persuasion.
H	Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.
I	Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.
J	Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.
K	Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems;
L	Ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions;
M	Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as
N	sources of ethical guidance;
O	Accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance; ethical issues in international relations and funding;
P	Corporate governance.
Q	Probity in Governance: Concept of public service;
R	Philosophical basis of governance and probity;
S	Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen's Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.
T	Case Studies on above issues.